

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN COUNTIES

December 2004



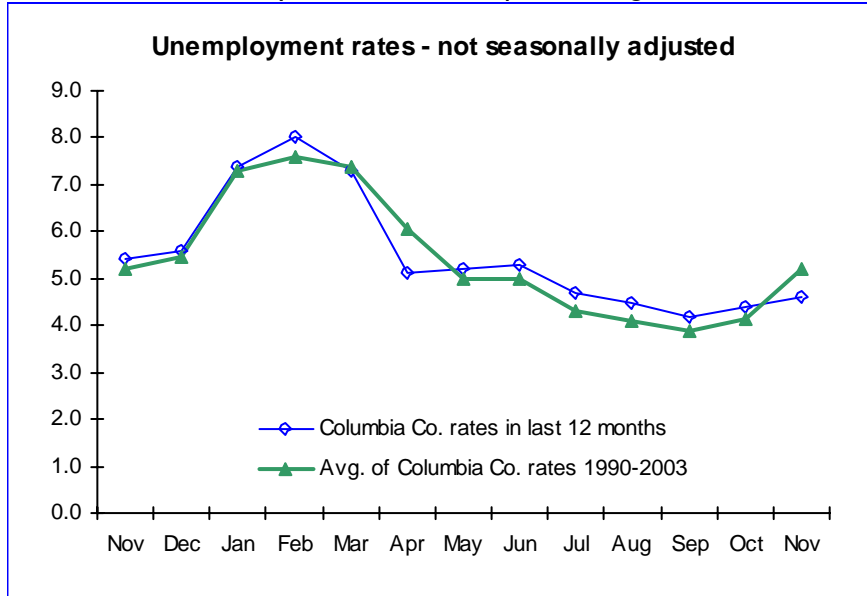
State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development
Office of Economic Advisors

Unemployment rates did not rise as fast as usual in November

In November, the unemployment rate in **Columbia County** rose much more slowly than it usually does, so it went from being 0.3 percent above the typical October level to being 0.6 percent below the typical November level. This is a break from May through October rates, which were 0.2 percent to 0.4 percent above typical and roughly followed typical trends in month-to-month changes. Leisure & hospitality employment estimates were roughly 190 jobs (7.9%) above year-ago levels in May and barely 10 jobs (0.4%) above year-ago levels in November.

Last November, professional & business services employment estimates were about 900 jobs (2.9%) below year-ago levels; this November they are 1,700 jobs (5.2%) above year-ago levels. Except June, every month from April through

Instead of rising as it typically does in November, **Dodge County's** unemployment rate dipped slightly. It now sits 0.5 percent above the typical November level, which is about as close to normal as it has been in the last twelve months. Retail & wholesale trade employment estimates are further above year-ago levels than any other sector's estimates. October and November declines in manufacturing employment estimates were steep, but not as steep as last year's. In May and June, leisure & hospitality employment estimates were about 180-190 jobs (7.0 - 7.1%) above year-ago levels; now the gap between current levels and year-ago levels has dropped very near zero.



Just as July through October, **Dane County's** unemployment rate remains about 0.5 percent above its typical November level.

October saw retail trade employment estimates below year-ago levels, so November's slight gain over year-ago-levels in is encouraging.

Labor force estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			South Central			Columbia			Dane		
	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	3,112,500	2,600	41,000	459,000	2,900	6,600	28,500	-320	30	297,400	4,100	7,100
Employed	2,982,500	-640	54,600	445,700	2,800	7,600	27,200	-380	230	290,900	4,100	7,500
Unemployed	130,000	3,300	-13,570	13,300	130	-920	1,320	50	-210	6,400	-20	-370
Unemployment rate (%)	4.2	0.1	-0.5	2.9	0.0	-0.2	4.6	0.2	-0.8	2.2	0.0	-0.1

	Dodge			Jefferson			Marquette			Sauk		
	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change
Civilian Labor Force**	47,800	-740	210	41,600	-40	-970	7,000	10	-60	36,700	-80	310
Employed	45,800	-650	420	39,900	-20	-960	6,500	-90	60	35,300	-200	310
Unemployed	2,000	-90	-210	1,680	-20	-10	470	100	-120	1,390	120	10
Unemployment rate (%)	4.2	-0.1	-0.5	4.0	-0.1	0.0	6.7	1.4	-1.7	3.8	0.3	0.0

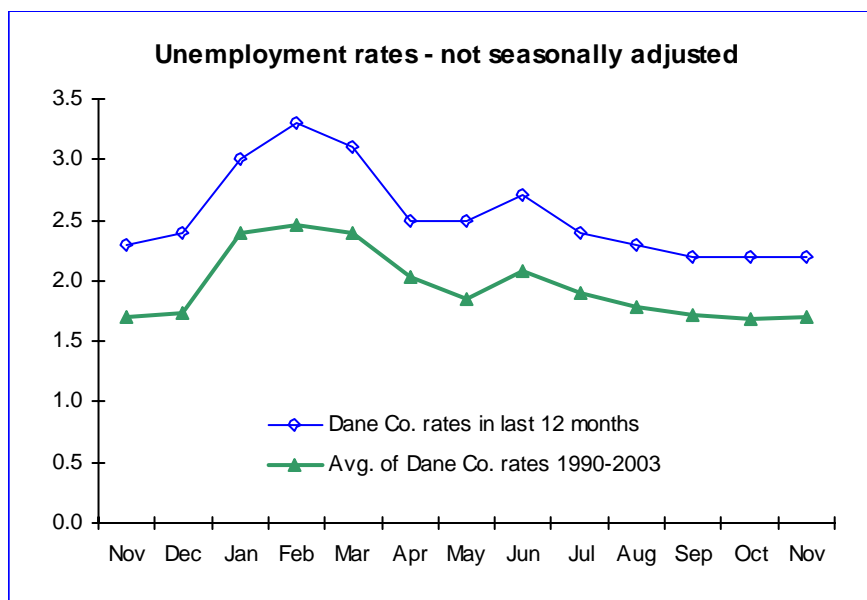
** Includes labor force participants residing in area. Estimates are **NOT** seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

Jefferson County's unemployment rate declined slightly, instead of rising as it usually does in November. This left it 0.7 percent above its typical level, which is the same as last November and is as close to normal as the rate has been in the last 12 months. Employment estimates for the information, professional, business & other services sector rebounded slightly in November, but not enough to make up for September and October declines. The sector remains an estimated 280 jobs (5.6%) above year-ago levels. In May, leisure & hospitality estimates were 260 jobs (7.5%) above year-ago levels; by May they were just 30 jobs (0.9%) above year-ago estimates.

In **Marquette County**, the unemployment rate rose a bit more slowly than usual in November, leaving it slightly

below its typical November level. As recently as August, leisure & hospitality estimates had been more than 30 jobs (6.9%) above year-ago levels; by November the current estimate nearly matched the year-ago estimate.

The unemployment rate in **Sauk County** rose more slowly than it usually does in November, leaving it 0.2 percent below the typical November rate after being 0.2 percent above the typical October rate. The decline in leisure & hospitality employment estimates is largely attributable to seasonal fluctuations and this November's estimates are higher than last November's. April was the last month



when retail & wholesale trade estimates were above year-ago levels, so this month's surge offers some encouragement.

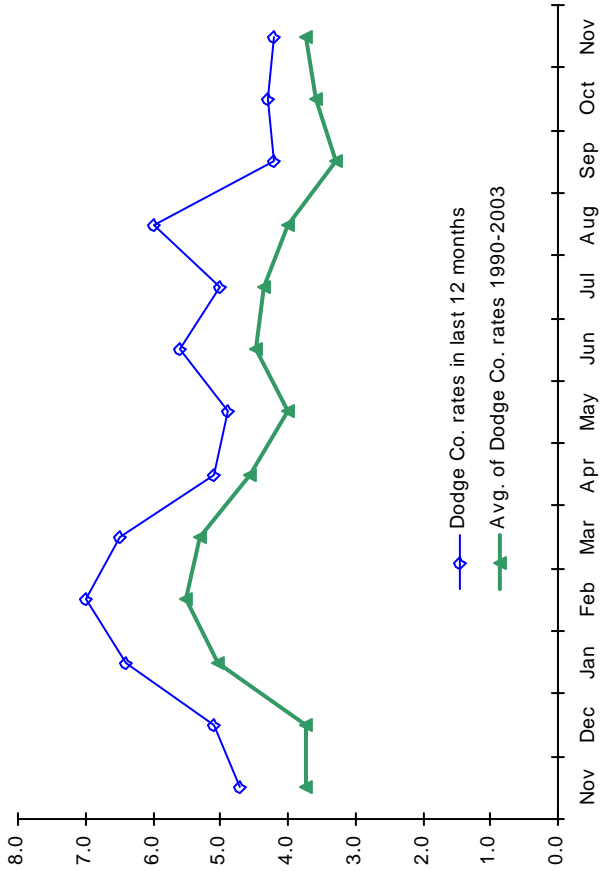
Employment by industry estimates - not seasonally adjusted

	Wisconsin			South Central			Columbia			Dane		
	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all indstries*	2,872,600	4,500	67,600	438,700	3,100	6,200	20,800	-260	230	308,700	4,100	5,800
Const., min'g & nat. resources	135,100	-2,700	2,500	23,000	-450	880	1,190	-20	40	15,800	-300	800
Manufacturing	518,800	-1,000	15,900	59,000	-360	30	4,600	-60	-100	27,800	200	600
Trade (w wholesale & retail)	460,300	12,700	16,700	68,000	3,200	1,730	3,600	40	30	46,200	2,300	1,200
Transport, Wrhsing, Utilities	109,700	200	900	10,900	-160	-310	780	-30	0	7,100	200	-200
Financial activities	162,700	500	2,600	29,500	110	-210	700	10	80	25,400	100	-400
Education & health services	382,600	2,100	8,000	45,700	370	1,040	2,300	20	30	30,700	300	800
Leisure & hospitality	240,600	-9,700	2,400	38,700	-1,240	440	2,100	-170	10	24,700	-200	200
Info, prof, bus. & other srvcs	443,100	-3,800	18,800	68,300	430	2,100	1,650	-20	70	54,800	600	2,200
Government	419,700	6,200	-200	95,600	1,280	470	3,900	-30	70	76,200	1,200	700

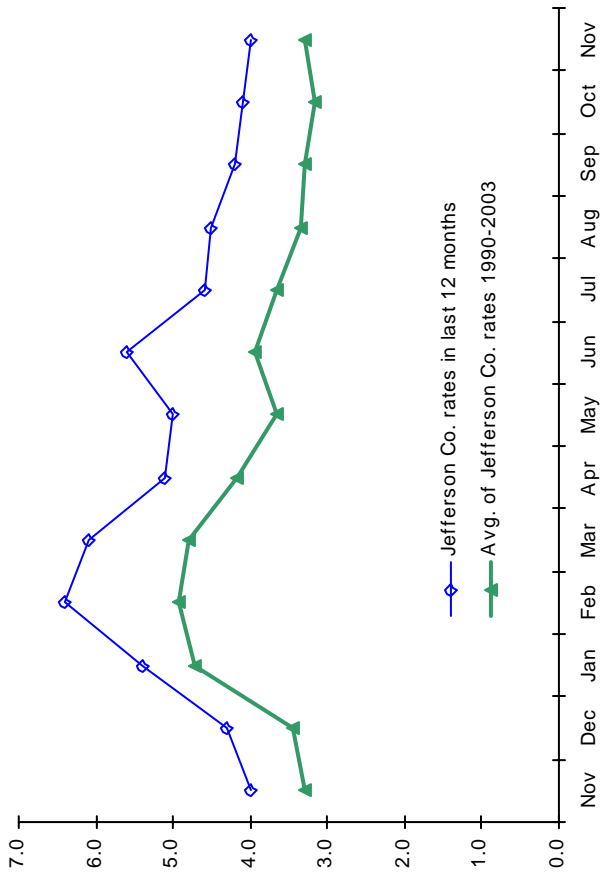
	Dodge			Jefferson			Marquette			Sauk		
	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change	Nov 2004	1-month change	1-year change
Total jobs, all indstries*	34,400	-450	340	34,900	0	-490	3,900	-60	0	35,900	-180	320
Const., min'g & nat. resources	2,300	-70	40	1,400	-20	60	220	-20	-80	2,100	-20	20
Manufacturing	10,200	-330	10	8,700	-10	-610	1,230	0	20	6,500	-160	120
Trade (w wholesale & retail)	4,300	110	290	6,100	80	30	460	-10	10	7,400	640	170
Transport, Wrhsing, Utilities	1,010	-20	10	1,250	-10	10	60	0	10	670	-20	-40
Financial activities	840	10	10	970	0	30	160	0	10	1,480	10	70
Education & health services	4,400	20	210	4,600	30	-50	310	0	10	3,400	0	50
Leisure & hospitality	2,300	-130	0	3,100	-140	30	390	-50	0	6,000	-550	200
Info, prof, bus. & other srvcs	3,500	-80	-170	5,000	40	280	230	0	20	3,100	-110	-270
Government	5,500	40	-50	3,800	30	-270	880	10	10	5,300	30	10

*Includes jobs with employers in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Numbers 2,000 and greater are rounded to nearest 100. Numbers under 2,000 are rounded to nearest 10. Sub-units may not add to totals due to rounding. Calculations are based on unrounded numbers. Results are rounded. For more information call (608) 242-4885 or email dan.barroilhet@dwd.state.wi.us.

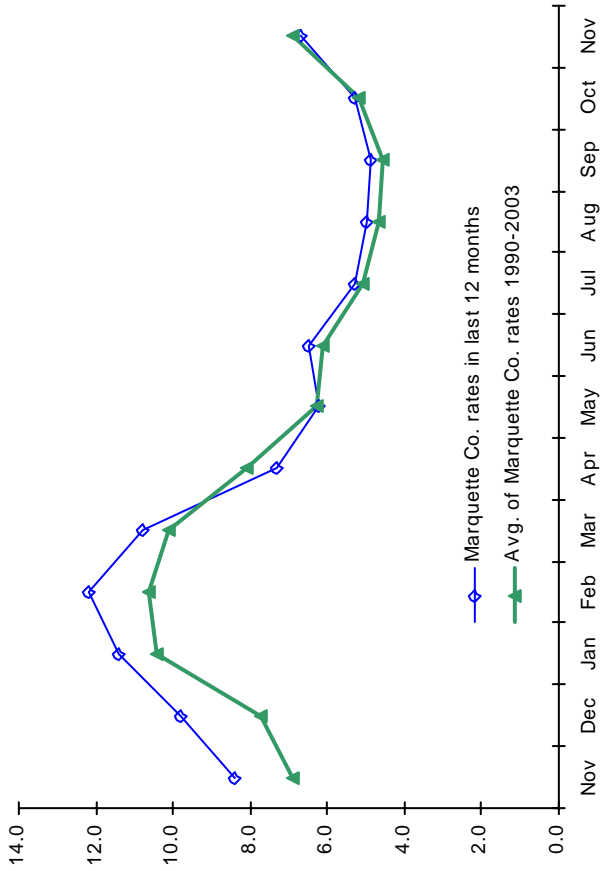
Unemployment rates - not seasonally adjusted



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